

NE PA Region Soybean Crop Tour and Crop Conferences

J. Craig Williams and Mark Madden

Final Report: E2011 102

Specific Objectives This Grant was very helpful in highlighting soybean production opportunities in the Northern Tier, Tioga and Bradford Counties.

1. Develop Regional Soybean Crop Management Bus Tours (Late Summer / Early Fall)
Small field days were held in each county. Cooperating with existing industry reps on their field days is one way to maximize our farmer audience time. Soybean plots were highlighted. We had the expectation of highlighting the 2012 PA soybean contest entries, but that did not happen due to the drought and declined interest to enroll this year. The harvest tour is still planned to complete our growing season. Tioga County hosted a Soybean plot at the Craig Owlett farm store and we handed out the PA Soybean growers packet along with the PA Soybean contest summary. (2010 soybean plot in Knoxville and a 2011 soybean plot in Middlebury) The growers looked over each variety and discussed the day length options.
2. Deliver 2 Winter Educational Meetings to disseminate research findings for soybean production and management. Bradford and Tioga County both included soybean topics on the winter time meetings including the Northern Tier Crops Conference. (See attached Flyer) The 2011 Pa Soybean contest summaries were included in each meeting along with current soybean production information. Soybean handouts included the PA Agronomy guide, the Purdue corn and Soybean guide and PA specific production recommendations. We also highlighted the proper use of AMS with hard water and roundup since this is the major spray protocol for soybean growers. We reached over 350 growers thru these workshops.
3. Both Bradford and Tioga County participated in the Western Bean Cutworm monitoring project to benefit our growers. This important project was part of a state wide monitoring or corn and soybean fields.

Justification

We thank the PA Soybean Association for the sponsorship of these meetings and field days. This is an excellent way to highlight the soybean program. We hope to have more field days and tours as more growers look at the soybean crop. Extension has provided educational crop production conferences within counties and regions of Pa since the early 1900's Penn State Extension in Tioga and Bradford counties has provided educational in-services and events for farmers. The soybean acres in our counties have increased since the 2003 PA NASS Census for both counties.

Many dairymen are exploring the possibility and economics of growing and roasting their own soybeans. Growing soybeans in northern Pa provides its own challenges. Northern Pennsylvania field work and demonstrations are the most effective way to disseminate educational information. We like to have crop meetings and invite current soybean producers to interact on their farm successes and to visit with soybean growers from other parts of the state.

Plot was just harvested:



Sample Plot discussion with color and day length differences:



Qualifications of Investigators

J.Craig Williams, Penn State Extension Agent since 1990. Conducted dairy and crop demonstrations and research projects across the state covering Qualisoy soybeans, pasture workshops Composting and Dairy Workshops,

Mark Madden, Penn State Extension Agent covering field crop educational topics in Bradford and Sullivan County. Mark works with several farmer grower groups in soil conservation, Notill and Small grains demonstrations. Mark also conducts herbicide trials for the Northern Tier.

Credit Opportunities

Pesticide Recertification Credits:

This year you have the opportunity to get multiple category credits.

Ag Choice Farm Credit Smart Start Credits:

Do you want a reduction on your loan? You are eligible for these credits if you are a borrower who is 35 years old or younger or if you are a beginning and small farmer (A borrower with 10 years of less farming experience and whose annual gross agriculture sales total less than \$250,000.) This full-day conference qualifies for two SmartStart credits.

Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) Credits:

CCA Credits are for those who are enrolled in the Certified Crop Advisor Program. Those individuals are advisers/consultants that spend the majority of their time advising growers on agronomic practices.

Penn State Field Crop Resources

Field Crop News

The Crop Management Extension Group electronic newsletter...the latest crop management information, delivered directly to your computer!

To view the newsletter or subscribe, visit
<http://extension.psu.edu/field-crop-news>

Penn State Agronomy Guide 2011-2012
Available on line at:

<http://extension.psu.edu/agronomy-guide>

Northern Tier Crops Conference Troy Firehall, Troy PA - 2/14/2012

9:00 a.m.

Doors open for registration and visiting with Exhibitors

10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Opening Remarks
Mark Madden, Penn State Extension

10:10 a.m. (1 CM)

2011 Crop Year in Review
Dr. Greg Roth, Penn State Extension Grain Specialist

2011 was an interesting year for crop production in Pennsylvania and provided numerous lessons in corn management. We'll discuss the management issues that came up during the year and what we learned from these experiences.

11:00 a.m. (1 IPM + 2 RUP credits)

Review of insect problems from 2011, Expectations for 2012

Dr. John Tooker, Penn State Crop Entomologist
We'll review the major insect pest issues of 2011, and look forward to what growers might expect in 2012. The reported failure of the Cry3Bb1 BT protein will also be presented.

12:00 noon

Lunch and Visit with Exhibitors

1:10 p.m. (1 SW)

What Have we Done to Our Fields and What Can we Do Now?!

Dr. Sjoerd Duiker, Penn State Soil Management Specialist

Soil compaction has been a real challenge this year bringing us back to the need to study the basics of effects, avoidance, and alleviation. The damage of 2011 will be endured for several years and we need to explore remediation beginning this Spring.

2:00 p.m. (1 CM)

Soybean Management and Cover Crop Inter-seeder Updates - Dr. Greg Roth, Penn State Extension Grain Specialist

Dr. Roth will touch on the key soybean management issues essential for high yields in the Northeast. Results from the Pa Soybean Network trials and other current research will be included. Concluding his remarks, Roth will discuss the rationale and opportunities with the newly developed Penn State Cover Crop Interseeder which may be demonstrated in the Northern Tier this coming year.

2:50.p.m. (0.5 NM)

New Nutrient Management Regulations: How will it Affect You?

Anthony Ligouri, Bradford County Conservation District

Serious changes are on the horizon for livestock producers and you need to know what's expected of agricultural producers in Pennsylvania.

3:15pm

Concluding Remarks and Adjourn

